

today. Two choices on the programs and investments we must fund and prioritize to balance deficit reduction with economic growth.

The prosperity of our Nation is dependent on a strong middle class. Regrettably, the Republican budget would increase taxes on middle class families, provide huge tax breaks for the wealthy, and place the burden of paying for those tax breaks on working Americans, and their children.

We have seen this budget before—a couple of times, in fact. It's the same budget Chairman RYAN brought us in 2013, and in 2012. It is a budget that works for the one percent at the expense of the other 99 percent. It shifts future costs to seniors by ending the Medicare guarantee and raising prescription drug costs. It cuts investment in our Nation's infrastructure, slashes funding for program, that keep children from going hungry, and guts education through cuts to Pell grants and K–12 education. Republicans have proposed a budget that attacks the very foundation of the middle class. It is a path that will lead to economic uncertainty for millions of Americans, and it is not a budget I can support in good conscience.

Democrats have offered a fair and balanced alternative budget that preserves our social safety net, keeps the promises made to our seniors, and asks all Americans to pay their fair share in reducing the deficit. Rhode Islanders understand more than most the toll unemployment can take on families and our communities. The Democratic alternative extends emergency unemployment insurance so those who are still struggling to find work can keep paying their bills. It provides \$76 billion for early childhood education and ensures college affordability by lowering student loan debt and including new repayment options. It provides funding for public transit, our highways, and supports critical investments in research and development, clean energy, manufacturing, and programs that make our industries competitive globally.

I have a responsibility to my constituents, and to every American, to make sure that policies we enact in Congress provide for the long term health and prosperity of our Nation, which include getting people back to work, giving our businesses the support they need to grow, and building a skilled workforce to meet the demands of a 21st Century economy. The Republican budget takes us in the wrong direction. I urge my colleagues to reject the Republican Budget and support the Democratic alternative that keeps our promises to our seniors, preserves our social safety net, and balances deficit reduction with job growth and economic recovery.

HONORING SADIE AND DOUG HODO

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Doug and Sadie Hodo of Texas. In light of their commitment to Christian higher education in Texas, Houston Baptist University is dedicating the Sadie and Doug Hodo Residence College on their campus.

Dr. Doug Hodo served as the second President of Houston Baptist University from 1987

to 2006. During that time, Dr. Hodo's wife, Sadie served as First Lady of Houston Baptist University.

It is a true honor to acknowledge Doug and Sadie Hodo's service and dedication to Houston Baptist University as well as their commitment to Christian higher education.

Under the leadership of Dr. Hodo, Houston Baptist University developed new academic programs and expanded its campus facilities. During his service as president, he created an integrated leadership team that resulted in informed decision making and effective internal communication processes for the University. As First Lady of Houston Baptist University, Sadie Hodo served the university with grace and distinction.

On February 18, 2014, the Houston Baptist University Board of Trustees unanimously approved the dedication of the residence college to Doug and Sadie Hodo. The dedication will take place on April 28, 2015.

Sadie and Doug Hodo's visionary leadership and extraordinary love for students built Houston Baptist University to be the great University that it is today—and they kept Christ at the center of both the University and their own lives while doing so.

God bless Sadie and Doug Hodo and God Bless the United States of America.

UCONN BASKETBALL WINS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise with enormous pride to congratulate the University of Connecticut men's and women's basketball teams on a season of unprecedented athletic achievement.

Under coaches Kevin Ollie and Geno Auriemma, the Huskies won both national championships, making UConn the only school to complete this feat twice.

The men's team pulled off a gritty title run, defeating St. Joe's, Villanova, Iowa State, Michigan State, Florida, and Kentucky and shocking the nation as a seven-seed. And the women's team continued a tradition of dominance, winning their ninth national championship and going 40–0 this season.

This double victory takes more than talent to accomplish. It takes perseverance, sacrifice, and a commitment to the team ideal, and the men and women of UConn have shown each in surpassing measure.

They have shown that, through hard work and dedication to a common goal, anything is possible. I congratulate both teams on two amazing victories, and I look forward to seeing them in action again next season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on April 9 and 10, 2014, I was unavoidably detained attending to representational activities in my congressional district, including attendance at

the memorial services for the victims of the tragic shooting at Fort Hood and thus unable to return in time for rollcall votes 171 through 177.

Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On rollcall No. 171 I would have voted “no” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Rep. Mulvaney of South Carolina Substitute Amendment No. 1).

2. On rollcall No. 172 I would have voted “yes” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Congressional Black Caucus Budget, Rep. Moore of Wisconsin Substitute Amendment No. 2).

3. On rollcall No. 173 I would have voted “yes” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Progressive Caucus Budget, Grijalva of Arizona Substitute Amendment No. 3).

4. On rollcall No. 174 I would have voted “no” (April 9)—(H.R. 4414, Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014).

5. On rollcall No. 175 I would have voted “no” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Rep. Woodall of Georgia Substitute Amendment No. 4).

6. On rollcall No. 176 I would have voted “yes” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Democratic Alternative Budget (Rep. VAN HOLLEN—Budget)).

7. On rollcall No. 177 I would have voted “no” (April 9)—(H. Con. Res. 96, Republican Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Resolution (Rep. RYAN—Budget)).

TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE POWELL NEAL

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Frankie Powell Neal.

Frankie was a loving woman and a devout Christian. She was dedicated to serving others in all aspects of her life. For over 30 years, she cared for our veterans as a nurse at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital and Harbor UCLA Medical Center. Frankie was also the matriarch of a great family that includes three children, eight grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

I have the distinguished honor of having a strong relationship with her son, Long Beach City Councilman Steve Neal. I know that she would be proud of his achievements and service to the great residents of the community in which he serves.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members of the House join me in a moment of silence to commemorate the life of Frankie Powell Neal.

HONORING IOWA ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR KIM TIERNEY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kim Tierney on being